

Message Text

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EXDIS - HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, NATO

SUBJECT: CRUISE MISSILE CONSULTATIONS IN NATO

REFS: (A) USNATO 5863 (B) BONN 10595

1. WE HAVE UNDER CONSIDERATION USNATO'S RECOMMENDATION

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(REFTEL A) THAT WE SUGGEST TO THE ALLIES A NAC
SESSION IN JULY FOR CONSULTATION ON OUR CRUISE MISSILE
PAPER. HOWEVER, BEFORE DECIDING TO MAKE SUCH A
PROPOSAL TO THE ALLIES, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF USNATO
COULD AMPLIFY WHICH ALLIES HAVE BEGUN TO PRESS US
ON OUR VIEWS ABOUT THE NEXT STEPS ON CRUISE MISSILE
CONSULTATIONS, AND WHAT AREAS THEY WANT TO DISCUSS.

2. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT A CONSULTATION LIMITED TO DISCUSSION OF THE CRUISE MISSILE PAPER MIGHT ACCOMPLISH, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THERE IS NOTHING NEW TO BE SAID ON POSSIBLE SALT LIMITS ON CRUISE MISSILES. NEITHER WOULD WE BE LIKELY TO HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO OFFER ON THE STATUS OF CRUISE MISSILE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENTS, EXCEPT FOR THE B-1/ALCM DECISION. THE FOCUS OF THE CONSULTATION WOULD BE THE CRUISE MISSILE PAPER ITSELF. THE US PARTICIPANTS

WOULD PROBABLY NOT MAKE A FORMAL PRESENTATION, BUT WOULD IMPLY RESPOND TO QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE ALLIES ON THE PAPER.

3. USNATO'S VIEWS ON THE FOREGOING POINTS, INCLUDING TIMING, WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

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